

# WASHINGTON STATE

## EMERGENCY OPERATIONS OFFICER

### MONTHLY REPORT

*May 2004*

CATEGORY	MAY 2004	MAY 2003	YTD 04	YTD 03
CSEPP INCIDENTS	2	8	18	12
DOE INCIDENTS	0	0	2	4
FIRE	53	27	144	78
HAZMAT	177	169	747	725
OTHER	22	25	106	101
911 OUTAGES	0	6	7	14
SAR	55	57	200	186
TERRORIST	0	0	0	0
WEATHER	9	5	30	22
CGS INCIDENTS	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	318	297	1254	1142

#### LEGEND

CSEPP	Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program
DOE	Department of Energy, Hanford Site
SAR	Search and Rescue Missions
HAZMAT	Hazardous Materials Incidents
WEATHER	Weather Incidents (throughout state, i.e., Flood, High Winds, and Snow)
CGS	Columbia Generating Station
FIRE	Forest Fire Incidents
OTHER	This category includes a wide variety of incidents, i.e., Tsunami, Earthquake, Critical Incident Stress Debriefings, Bomb Threat, etc...
911	911 Service Outages

#### SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

- On May 5, the State Emergency activated to Phase III Operations at 1030 hours to conduct the Annual Chemical Stockpile Emergency Planning Program Exercise (CSEPP). Technology is once again playing a role in emergency response to improve the State EOC Operational readiness thru the use of a WEB-based application "Web EOC" software, which appears to have real potential to improve the coordination capabilities for the Division. Web EOC provided a connection via the Internet between the two emergency operations centers allowing for the seamless

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exchange of information that included everything from status reports and resource requests to maps and photos. The exercise terminated at 1510 hours.

- On May 5, the Umatilla Chemical Depot (UMCD) notified the State EOC that a civilian facility worker was suffering from chest pains (Possible Heart Attack) and was transported to Good Shepard Hospital by ambulance.
- On May 7, the National Weather Service, Portland issued a Severe Thunderstorm Warning for Cowlitz County during mid-afternoon. This warning was terminated the same day with no reports of major damages.
- On May 10, an explosion occurred at the wastewater treatment plant in Spokane. There was one confirmed fatality with several personnel initially missing and/or believed to have been blown into the Spokane River at the time. First Responders were able to locate the missing workers after a search of the area and transport them to a local area hospital for treatment. An estimated 200,000 gallons of waste sewage was spilled from the 2 million gallon holding tank with an unknown amount of waste material flowing in to the Spokane River. Health warnings were issued by the local Health Department over all local media (radio, TV & newspaper) with written warnings posted on the river. These health warnings remained in effect for 3 days with water quality and air quality samples taken to insure public safety.
- On May 11, The Washington State EOC activated to Phase III to conduct a full rehearsal for the graded Annual Columbia Generating Station Exercise in August. State Agencies Liaisons and local jurisdictions participated in the exercise. The State EOC returned to Phase I Normal Operation at 1532 hours.
- On May 15, the University Of Washington seismology lab reported a 3.0 magnitude earthquake 110 miles NE of Chelan and due north of the town of Republic in Ferry County. The quake epicenter was actually across the U.S. border in British Columbia. There were no reports of the quake felt or any property damages from Chelan or Ferry County in Washington State.
- On May 15, Mt Rainier National Park requested several high-altitude qualified and technically trained SAR volunteers to rescue an injured hiker at the 12,500 foot level of Mt Rainier on Liberty Ridge below the Black Pyramid area. SAR personnel from Tacoma Mountain Rescue and Seattle Mountain Rescue assisted in the mission. The individual passed away during transported off Mt Rainier via Military helicopter to Madigan Army Medical Center on May 17.

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- On May 17, Pierce County initiated its annual "Mt Rainier Lahar" drill/exercise. The annual exercise included participation at the local, county and state level. With participants conducting evacuation and communication drills.
- On May 19, Whatcom County with support from a US Navy helicopter from Whidbey Island Air Station, United States Forest Service and additional Mountain SAR personnel Skagit county commencing a rescue of an injured 48 year-old male climber who has failed 700 ft on Mt Shuksen. Climber was rescued and is convalescing with broken bones and abrasions.
- On May 19, National Weather Service issued a Flash Flood Warning for Yakima County and a Severe Thunderstorm Warning for Stevens County. The storms passed without major noted impact.
- On May 20, The National Weather Service issued a Flash Flood Warning for Yakima and Kittitas Counties. Additionally, a Severe Thunderstorm Warning was issued for Douglas, Grant, and Yakima Counties. The storms passed without major noted impact.
- On May 21, The National Weather Service issued a Severe Thunderstorm Warning and a Tornado Warning for western Spokane County. As many as three funnel clouds were reported near Airway Heights and Fairchild AFB. The storm gradually moved into western Idaho without causing major damage.
- On May 23, at approximately 8:00 a.m. the Olympic Pipe Line experienced a shut down of their entire system due to a leak and the resulting fire at their Renton facility. Three firefighters were transported and subsequently released from Harborview Medical Center for gasoline product contamination. The leak originated from a 1/2 inch diameter stainless steel sampling line, which runs for just a few feet between the 16-inch product line and the sampling building, both of which are located on the facility property. Access to the site was restricted to fire fighting personnel for most of the day. The line was eventually excavated and isolated at approximately 5:30 p.m. that same afternoon. King County and the City of Renton opened their EOC's to assist the Fire Department in managing the gasoline pipeline explosion and subsequent fire. The pipeline was finally put back in operation on May 25<sup>th</sup> after a thorough investigation and complete inspection of the Olympic pipeline system.

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For the month of May 2004 the SEOO's:

- Ø Issued 14 warnings to jurisdictions for imminent or occurring emergencies
- Ø Issued 2 warnings to tribal nations for imminent or occurring emergencies
- Ø Conducted 813 notifications to state agency liaisons for imminent or occurring emergencies
- Ø Coordinated 21 resources for search, rescue, recovery and response operations
- Ø Participated in 15 exercises of which 12 were vessel spill drills
- Ø Made 1,212 and answered 1,565 telephone calls
- Ø Conducted 1,643 National Warning System Tests, conducted 11 Comprehensive Emergency Management Network (CEMNET) radio tests. (connects all counties and many cities via Zetron Radio Console)
- Ø Conducted 53 dedicated line tests with the Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program (CSEPP)
- Ø Conducted 4 dedicated line tests with the Department of Energy, Hanford Site (DOE)
- Ø Conducted 6 dedicated line tests with the Columbia Generating Station (CGS)
- Ø Conducted 38 down wind trajectory connectivity communications tests with the Umatilla Military Storage Depot (D2PUFF)